In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

- 1. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition containing a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein and a biodegradable protein as a carrier, wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.
- 2. (**Original**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing soluble collagen as a carrier.
- 3. (**Original**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, containing insoluble, cross-linked collagen.
- 4. (Currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in the any of claims 1, 2, or 3 [[-3]], wherein said composition further contains containing a hyaluronic acid or alginate.
- 5. (Currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in <u>claim 4</u> elaims 1-4, containing a hedgehog protein at a concentration of 0.1-100 mg/ml.
- 6. (Currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in <u>claim 5</u> elaims 1–5, wherein the composition is buffered in a range between pH 4.5 and 10.
- 7. (**Currently amended**) Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in <u>claim 5 or 6</u> elaims 1-6, containing arginine or argininium ions.
- 8. (**Currently amended**) Process for the production of a pharmaceutical composition, wherein a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein is combined in a therapeutically effective amount with a biodegradable protein as a carrier, and wherein said biodegradable protein binds the hedgehog protein and releases said protein in a delayed manner.

- 9. (Withdrawn) Process for the delayed release of a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein in the human body, wherein the said hedgehog protein is applied locally in the human body in a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claims 1-7.
- 10. (**Original**) Process for the production of an insoluble, biodegradable protein carrier matrix which contains a hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein, wherein the carrier matrix is incubated with a solution containing the said hedgehog protein at a concentration of 3 mg/ml or more and arginine or argininium ions at a concentration of 10 mmol/l or more and the carrier matrix coated in this manner is isolated.